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Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

February 11, 2008

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TO: All Interested Parties

SUBJECT: URBAN BUS ENGINE CERTIFICATION

This letter is to remind transit agencies, bus manufacturers, and engine manufacturers that vehicles intended for urban bus service in California must continue to be powered by engines certified to the urban bus service class. Even though the engine exhaust standards are aligned starting with the 2007 model-year, urban bus engines and heavy heavy-duty engines have different characteristics (e.g., duty cycle, emission control configuration [e.g., space requirements and arrangements]) and engine calibration (e.g., regeneration strategy and idling control). As a result, urban bus engines and heavy heavy-duty engines are required to be certified in different intended service classes and labeled accordingly. An urban bus is defined as a passenger carrying vehicle owned or operated by a public transit agency, powered by a heavy heavy-duty engine, or of a type normally powered by a heavy heavy-duty diesel engine, intended primarily for intra-city operation. A bus normally powered by a heavy heavy-duty diesel engine is usually 35-feet or longer, and/or greater than 33,000 pounds gross vehicle weight rating.

Also, beginning with the 2007 model year, transit agencies may purchase urban buses powered with diesel-fueled hybrid-electric engines, provided the engine combined with the electric power system is certified to the urban bus service class. Because the hybrid-electric technology is considered a part of the propulsion system in an urban bus, it must be evaluated with the engine through the certification process. Other heavy-duty engines are allowed to add hybrid electric system provided there are no physical or electronic modifications to the engine.

If you have any questions about the engine certification process, please contact Mr. Tom Chang, Air Pollution Specialist at (626) 575-6809. Questions regarding the Fleet Rule for Transit Agencies should be directed to Ms. Kathleen Mead, Manager at (916) 324-9550 or kmead@arb.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

Robert H. Cross, Chief
Mobile Source Control Division

cc: See next page

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our website: <http://www.arb.ca.gov>.

California Environmental Protection Agency

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cc: Ms. Kathleen Mead, Manager
Retrofit Implementation Section

Mr. Tom Chang
Air Pollution Specialist
Mobile Source Operations Division